

Southwest Region/Washington County - Quarterly Report

Meeting Dates:	April 6, 2009 May 4, 2009 June 1, 2009	Review and Action Plan	Follow-up
Dash Board Items/ Studies:	<p>Placement Stability and Stability of Kinship/Specific placements</p>	<p>Reviewed Kin/specific protocol when CPS is called. Team asked for information on what the rate of entry is for children who are first placed with kin and then disrupts.</p> <p>DCFS brought data in May that is relatively new, appears to be improving, but still too new to tell for sure. Will need more time/data to evaluate. June's point in time data appeared to be slipping, not sure can identify why.</p> <p>Shelter/Congregate care: DCFS discussed w/team the importance of identifying kin at beginning of case before police are involved. Once they are involved, kin have to be screened and approved.</p> <p>We have resource families who just want to provide temporary care, which is problematic with DCFS's goals to reduce number of placements a child has. Emergency FC may work well in some cases, but would prefer to have families be resource from shelter thru adoption, if need be, for child.</p>	<p>Look at data on on-going basis to see trends.</p> <p>UFCF will continue to work with families to inform about need for them to be resources to DCFS from shelter thru adoption if necessary.</p> <p>In some cases, having emergency foster families on hand is necessary but not best practice.</p>
	Substance Abuse	Drug Endangered Conf will be in SLC in Aug. 5 th & 6 th .	Members are encouraged to attend conference if possible.

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	Employee Retention	Annual Success Event took place March 25 th in conjunction w/National CW Appreciation Month. Supervisors and Community Partners distributed nomination forms. Five awards were given for CW of the year in each area of child welfare: CPS, In-Home, Foster Care, Domestic Violence, Support, and Supervisors. Lunch was catered and had great feedback from group.	Learned that funds can be used for these events, but SW QIC budget has been cut in half. Will have to find new revenue source if this event is to continue to be offered.
	Recruitment of new QIC members	Members of QIC team were challenged to find some members in the community whom they know, to invite to be QIC members. We had great success in that we had the addition of a consumer, and four community partners added to the team this quarter.	Members will continue to find new members outside DCFS to be on team. We especially would like a youth who has aged out of the system to be on the team.
Other Business:	CAPTA	CPS Supervisor, Shirley Owen discussed CPS referral process and when there is an investigation, how cases are reviewed and either investigated or unaccepted. Questions were raised about false and frivolous reporting protocols. Shirley indicated that DCFS does have discretion to notify county attorney if received excessive false reports.	Next quarter will discuss different CPS issue.

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	Budget Deficit	Also of concern to committee was discussion about severe budget cuts statewide and the impact this would have on delivery of services to DCFS clients. Of special concern are negative outcomes of prevention programs being cut, and DCFS becoming catch-all. This would seriously impact ability to deliver quality services to children and families.	Committee members will continue to monitor budget and contact legislators if it looks like cuts will substantially impact services.
	Community Partner Presentation	Washington County Youth Crisis Center made presentation about their program and how it serves the community and supports DCFS. They are at risk of losing funding and need our help. Team members were encouraged to write legislators re: this valuable resource in our community.	Will need to monitor the budget problems to determine the future of this program in Washington County.
	DCFS Program Presentation	Suzanne Chavira, In-Home supervisor, gave presentation about pilot project they are implementing to provide Intensive Protective Supervision Services (IPS). These will be like family preservation services aimed at preserving children in their home to prevent removal to foster care.	Pilot project is set to begin July 1st